Best Practices in Threat Intelligence

Gather, document, analyse and contextualise intelligence using MISP

CIRCL / Team MISP Project

MISP Project https://www.misp-project.org/

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OBJECTIVES

- Learn how to use MISP to support common OSINT gathering use-cases often used by SOC, CSIRTs and CERTs
 - Use practical exercise examples¹
 - The exercises are based on practical recent cases to model and structure intelligence using the MISP standard
- Improve the data models available in MISP by exchanging live improvements and ideas
- Be able to share the results to the community at the end of this session

¹https:

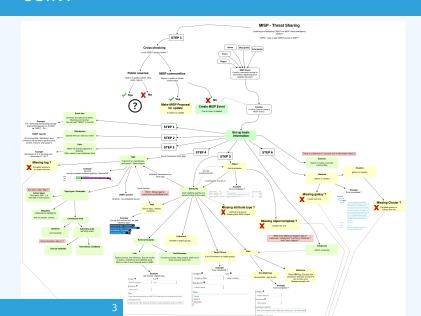
^{//}gist.github.com/adulau/8c1de48060e259799d3397b83b0eec4f

(THREAT) INTELLIGENCE

- Cyber threat intelligence (CTI) is a vast concept which includes different concepts, methods, and workflows
 - Intelligence is defined differently in the military than in the financial sector than in the intelligence community
- MISP project doesn't want to lock an organisation or a user into a specific model. Each model is useful depending on the objectives of an organisation
- A set of pre-defined knowledge base or data-models are available and organisations can select (or create) what they need
- During this session, an overview of the most used taxonomies, galaxies, and objects will be described

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OVERALL PROCESS OF COLLECTING AND ANALYSING OSINT



META INFORMATION AND CONTEXTUALISATION 1/2

- Quality of indicators/attributes are important but tagging and classification are also critical to ensure actionable information
- Organizing intelligence is done in MISP by using tags, which often originate from MISP taxonomy libraries
- The scope can be classification (tlp, PAP), type (osint, type, veris), state (workflow), collaboration (collaborative-intelligence), or many other fields
- MISP taxonomy documentation is readily available²
- Review existing practices of tagging in your sharing community, reuse practices, and improve context

²https://www.misp-project.org/taxonomies.html

META INFORMATION AND CONTEXTUALISATION 2/2

- When information cannot be expressed in triple tags format (namespace:predicate=value), MISP use Galaxies
- **Galaxies** contain a huge set of common libraries³ such as threat actors, malicious tools, tactics, target information, mitigations, and more
- When tagging or adding a Galaxy cluster, tagging at the event level is for the whole event (including attributes and objects). Tagging at the attribute level is for a more specific context

³https://www.misp-project.org/galaxy.html

ESTIMATIVE PROBABILITY

- Words of Estimative Probability⁴ propose clear wording while estimating probability of occurence from an event
- A MISP taxonomy called **estimative-language**⁵ proposes an applied model to tag information in accordance with the concepts of Estimative Probability

⁴https:

^{//}www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/
csi-publications/books-and-monographs/
sherman-kent-and-the-board-of-national-estimates-collected-essa
6words.html

⁵https://www.misp-project.org/taxonomies.html

RELIABILITY, CREDIBILITY, AND CONFIDENCE

- The Admiralty Scale⁶ (also called the NATO System) is used to rank the reliability of a source and the credibility of information
- A MISP taxonomy called admiralty-scale⁷ is available
- US DoD JP 2-o, Joint Intelligence⁸ includes an appendix to express confidence in analytic judgments
- A MISP predicate in estimative-language called confidence-in-analytic-judgment⁹ is available

ADDING ATTRIBUTES/OBJECTS TO AN EVENT

- If the information is a single atomic element, using a single attribute is preferred
 - Choosing an attribute type is critical as this defines the automation/export rule (e.g. url versus link or ip-src/ip-dst?)
 - ► Enabling the IDS (automation) flag is also important, but when you are in doubt, don't set the IDS flag
- If the information is composite (ip/port, filename/hash, bank account/BIC), using an object is strongly recommended

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HOW TO SELECT THE RIGHT OBJECT?

There are more than 150 MISP object¹⁰ templates. As an example, at CIRCL, we regularly use the following object templates file, microblog, domain-ip, ip-port, coin-address, virustotal-report, paste, person, ail-leak, pe, pe-section, registry-kev.

¹⁰https://www.misp-project.org/objects.html

MICROBLOG OBJECT

Use case

A series of OSINT tweets from a security researcher. To structure the thread, the information, and keep a history.



Object to use

The microblog object can be used for Tweets or any microblog post (e.g. Facebook). The object can be linked using followed-by to describe a series of post.



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FILE OBJECT

Use case

- A file sample was received by email or extracted from VirusTotal
- A list of file hashes were included in a report
- A hash value was mentioned in a blog post

Object to use

The file object can be used to describe file. It's usual to have partial meta information such as a single hash and a filename.



REFERENCES

- Graphical overview of OSINT collection using MISP https: //github.com/adulau/misp-osint-collection
- MISP objects documentation https://www.misp-project.org/objects.html
- MISP taxonomies documentation https://www.misp-project.org/taxonomies.html
- MISP galaxy documentation https://www.misp-project.org/galaxy.html